


The Court acknowledged the serious nature of the charges and penalties that Defendant faces, but advised him that appointment of new counsel would not change those circumstances and removing counsel at this late stage could actually be detrimental to his case.

“Because the right to choose counsel is not absolute, it necessarily follows that a defendant does not have an absolute right to substitution of counsel. As a general rule, a defendant must show good cause in requesting a new appointed lawyer.” United States v. Mullen, 32 F.3d 891, 895 (4th Cir. 1994). Here, Defendant’s complaints do not establish good cause for the Court to appoint new counsel. Based upon the foregoing, the Court finds no basis to remove Mr. Lee as appointed counsel.

The Clerk is directed to send copies of this Order to counsel for the parties; and to the Honorable Frank D. Whitney

SO ORDERED.

Signed: October 7, 2013



David S. Cayer
United States Magistrate Judge

